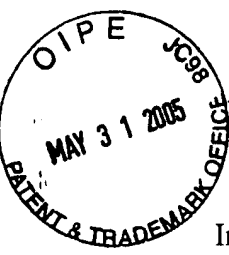


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In the United States Patent & Trademark Office

In re Application of:
Clausell, A. *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/978,498

Filed on: October 15, 2001

For: *Reagents for Improved Cell-Based Assays*

Examiner: Prats, F. C.

Art Unit: 1651

Atty Dkt. No.: 2055-181

Reply

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In Response to the Final Official Action of May 16, 2005, issued with respect to the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following Reply comprising Introductory Comments, Amendments to the Claims, Amendments to the Specification, and Remarks.

Introductory Comments

This Reply has been formatted in attempted compliance with the revised provisions of 37 CFR 1.121.

No fee, other than those provided for on the accompanying Fee Transmittal Form are believed to be due in order for the timely consideration of this Reply. If, however, the Director determines that such a fee is required, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge any (Large Entity) fee required for consideration of this submission to Deposit Account 50-0548.